

**WASHINGTON. D.C.** – House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Ranking Member Darrell Issa (R-CA) released the following statement today in response to a letter from Neil Barofsky, Special Inspector General of TARP, responding to inquiries from Republican staff of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform regarding SIGTARP's position within Treasury:

*“At a time when the Treasury and Federal Reserve are exercising unprecedented powers intervening in our economy, the independence of the SIGTARP is one of the few checks and balances that remain. □ It is extremely troubling that in the midst of SIGTARP's investigation into bonuses received by AIG executives, the Treasury Department would seek to exert control over this independent overseer.”*